TEACHERS SHOW CLASS at national awards
Whether you want to boost your qualifications or make a career change, the innovative and career-tailored postgraduate coursework programs at UQ will help you truly succeed.

Find out how at www.uq.edu.au/study
Remembrance Day service

Secrets of the deep captured

4 Genetics expert Dr Craig Venter on board

8 Queensland Rhodes Scholar announced

9 Teaching and Learning Week 2004

10 Stamping out concrete cancer

11 Smart State success for three researchers

12 Moreton Bay Research Station celebrates

15 UQ says goodbye to long-serving librarian

18 Program builds strong links with China

23–24 UQ News survey

17 Antiquities added to UQ collection

19 Campus Kindy carer retires

Antiquities added to UQ collection

UQ NEWS is produced by the Office of Marketing and Communications, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Qld, 4072, Australia Telephone: (07) 3365 3367 Facsimile: (07) 3365 1488 Editor: Brad Turner (07) 3365 2659, b.turner@uq.edu.au Editorial: Chris Saxby (07) 3365 2479, c.saxby@uq.edu.au; Miguel Holland (07) 3365 2619, m.holland@uq.edu.au Art: Wendy Oakley Photography: Chris Stacey (07) 3365 1735, c.stacey@uq.edu.au; Diana Lilley (photo librarian) (07) 3365 2753, d.lilley@uq.edu.au Printing: Print Works, Geebung Circulation: 14,000 Advertising (external): John Treacy and Associates (07) 3349 6788 (internal): Tina Hannan (07) 5460 1739 Registered by Australia Post Publication No. QBH 0194 The University of Queensland’s Web address is www.uq.edu.au
Gene expert docks at UQ

A world-renowned genetics expert sailing around the globe on a mission of exploration will be based at UQ for six months.

UQ researchers will collaborate with Dr Craig Venter, the US scientist who helped crack the human genetic code, during his six-month visit to Queensland as part of a quest to define the origins and diversity of life.

Dr Venter and a research team from the Venter Institute are circling the globe in his yacht and floating laboratory, Sorcerer II, collecting marine samples and analysing their genetic data.

Australia is the 14th country the team has visited.

Dr Venter will be working with leading bioinformatic and genetic researchers.

He will navigate around Queensland waters, in particular those of the Great Barrier Reef.

He will also analyse samples using techniques known as high-throughput DNA sequencing and whole-genome shotgun assembly.

These techniques have been developed to decode the human genome.

The University’s Institute for Molecular Bioscience (IMB) will host Dr Venter and his team during their time in Queensland.

Dr Venter said little was known about microbial life.

“The field of environmental genomics has the potential to revolutionise the way our oceans, soil and whole ecosystems and environments are studied,” he said.

“By taking relatively small samples of water or soil and using the tools and techniques of shotgun sequence analysis, we are able to identify and characterise the vast legions of unseen organisms living in the environment.

“It is estimated that over 99 percent of species remain to be discovered.”

Dr Venter said he appreciated the opportunity to collaborate with UQ, which offered world-class scientific expertise, first-rate facilities and a great location.

IMB Director Professor John Mattick said the megadiversity of Australia, and particularly Queensland, was a vital part of Dr Venter’s expedition.

“We have warm tropical waters in northern Queensland, temperate oceans around Tasmania and our continent is a launching pad to the Antarctic waters,” Professor Mattick said.

UQ Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield said the University was looking forward to hosting Dr Venter and his team.

“Dr Venter is basing himself in Brisbane because he believes Queensland is attracting international attention as an emerging regional centre for biomolecular research and biotechnology industries, not unlike Singapore and Seattle,” Professor Greenfield said.

“Queensland is gaining this reputation and attracting scientists of the calibre of Dr Venter because of the work done by research institutes such as the IMB at UQ and because of support from the State Government, whose backing has enabled UQ to develop cutting-edge facilities and gather a critical mass of leading scientists.”

Queensland Premier Peter Beattie, who met Dr Venter in November, said Queensland, as the Smart State, was delighted to be hosting the eminent scientist.

“Dr Venter has been sailing the oceans of the world since August last year collecting microbes from sea water as part of his quest to sequence the genome of Mother Earth and will be basing himself at the University for six months because of its reputation for molecular research,” Mr Beattie said.

“Dr Venter is not only one of the world’s most eminent genomic researchers, he is also a successful entrepreneur who is reported to have used $100 million of his own money to create a not-for-profit research organisation employing 200 scientists.

“I invite Dr Venter to not only study our microbes, but to examine our world-class research organisations and consider partnering us in research or setting up a branch of his organisation in Queensland.”

For information on the Sorcerer II expedition, visit www.venterinstitute.org

From left: Mr Beattie, Dr Venter and Professor Greenfield
The University has won two major awards at the Australian Awards for University Teaching announced at Parliament House in Canberra.

Dr Merrilyn Goos won the Social Sciences category of the awards, presented by Federal Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs, Dr Brendan Nelson, on November 30.

The winners of the individual categories each received $40,000 while the institutional award winners received $50,000.

UQ’s Dr Jose (Jimmy) Botella, a senior lecturer in UQ’s School of Life Sciences, in the Faculty of Biological and Chemical Sciences, was a finalist in the Biological Sciences, Health and Related Studies category.

Dr Goos is a senior lecturer in UQ’s School of Education, in the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences. She is responsible for the pre-service and continuing professional education of mathematics teachers at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Dr Goos graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 1978 and then worked for several years as a food technologist.

“Abandoning this career to tutor school students and adults returning to study gave me tantalising glimpses of how minds can be shaped and nurtured in learning interactions and made me realise that I was meant to be a teacher,” she said.

Dr Goos graduated with a Diploma of Education in 1986 and began a new career as a teacher of secondary school mathematics and chemistry.

She then went on to complete a Master of Educational Studies degree and a PhD.

“My goal is to prepare excellent mathematics teachers. This makes it important for me not only to teach my students about teaching, but also to model excellent teaching practice,” she said.

The Graduate School’s team members included Professor Alan Lawson (Director, UQ Graduate School and Dean of Postgraduate Studies), Dr Catherine Manathunga (lecturer in higher education, postgraduate supervision and teaching), Professor Christa Critchley (Deputy Director, UQ Graduate School) and Ray Johnson (principal administrative officer).

The Graduate School, in association with UQ Schools and several organisational units, provides an extensive range of training, services and support for all of the University’s research students, their advisors and administrators through a fully integrated framework.

This takes effect from prior to the students’ enrolment through to the completion of their studies.

The framework involves providing training and support to the advisors, coordinators and administrators involved with research students, as well as to the students themselves.

The success in this year’s awards continues a strong tradition among UQ staff.

UQ academics have won awards in each of the seven years since they were introduced, including the Prime Minister’s Australian Award for Individual University Teacher of the Year for the past two years, and three times overall.

Associate Professor Ian Cameron, a Reader in chemical engineering at UQ, won the 2003 Prime Minister’s Australian Award for Individual University Teacher of the Year.

This year’s winner was Professor Mark Israel, a Professor of Law and Criminology and Associate Dean (Research), from Flinders University of South Australia.
Healthy outlook for medical research

UQ researchers have been awarded more than $15 million as part of the latest round of National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Project Grant funding announced in November.

UQ’s $15,230,573 share of the funding was the largest in Queensland and fourth largest in the country.

Of the 54 projects funded in Queensland, UQ was successful in 35, confirming its place as one of the top research institutions in the State and around the nation.

UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor David Siddle said the funding allocated to the University had increased by more than $1 million from 2003.

“I congratulate all those researchers whose talent and dedication has resulted in NHMRC funding,” he said.

“The results mean there will be an exciting array of research being conducted across all areas of health and biomedical science.”

UQ was also only one of three institutions in the country to receive funding under the new NHMRC Health Services Research Grants, which aim to strengthen Australia’s capacity in health services research.

Associate Professor Theo Vos, from the School of Population Health, received $3.2 million for a wide-reaching project looking at ways to reduce health costs, health inequalities and improve the health of Australians.

The quality of UQ researchers was also recognised with almost $3 million in Research Fellowships.

The Institute for Molecular Bioscience’s (IMB) Associate Professor Alpha Yap and Dr Brian Gabrielli, from the Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research, were awarded Senior Research Fellowships while Professor David Vaney from the Vision Touch and Hearing Research Centre, and Professor Robert Parton from the IMB had their Principal Research Fellowships renewed.

Associate Professor Melissa Little, also from the IMB, was promoted to Principal Research Fellow.

Dr Konsta Tsay, from the School of Population Health’s North Queensland Health Equalities Promotion Unit, was granted a NHMRC Population Health Career Development award.

Industry link grant leader

Dealing with urban sprawl, creating new medical diagnostic techniques and developing a novel air pollution monitoring strategy will be some of the UQ research projects to benefit from the latest round of ARC grants.

The University has again topped the nation’s universities in funding from the first round of the Australian Research Council’s (ARC) 2005 Linkage Projects announced in November.

UQ won around $7.2 million in Linkage grants, ahead of the University of New South Wales with $4.9 million and the University of Melbourne with $4.3 million.

UQ’s ARC Linkage Projects for the round totalled $18.1 million, made up of approximately $7.2 million in ARC funding and $10.9 million in industry partner contributions.

The grants encourage the formation of long-term strategic alliances between university researchers and their collaborating partner organisations.

This follows the University’s success as the national leader in ARC Linkage Projects in 2004 and affirms UQ as the leading University in terms of industry interactions.

“I am delighted with the outstanding success of our researchers in attracting 26 projects in this latest round,” Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor David Siddle said.

The grants encourage the formation of long-term strategic alliances between university researchers and their collaborating partner organisations.

The University also performed strongly in the ARC Discovery Projects grants, securing 88 grants worth in excess of $25 million and ranking fifth in the nation.

Linkage grants included:
• Professor Graeme Hammer, from the School of Land and Food Sciences, and colleagues were awarded $600,000 for a project focusing on understanding and modelling the genetics and physiology of key adaptive traits in sorghum and maize.

• Kathi Holt-Damant, from the School of Geography, Planning and Architecture, and colleagues have been awarded $297,000 for a project focusing on transit-oriented development (TOD) as a strategy for dealing with urban sprawl and congestion in South East Queensland.

• Professor Graeme Hammer, from the School of Land and Food Sciences, and colleagues were awarded $522,011 for a project aimed at validating a set of biological and psychological indicators of outcome following whiplash injury.

The project will allow stakeholders involved in whiplash, such as health care and insurance providers, to predict with confidence both people at risk of developing chronic symptoms, as well as those with a good chance of full recovery.

• Dr Jochen Mueller, from the National Research Centre for Environmenta

The research aims to develop and evaluate a novel approach combining extraction of pollutants using time-integrated passive samplers and toxicological evaluation using rapid in-vitro and in-vivo assays.

Discovery grants included:
• Associate Professor Justin Cooper-White, from the School of Engineering, and colleagues were awarded $965,000 in Discovery Projects funding to investigate new systematic design standards for microdevice manufacture for the biotechnology, environmental, communications and information technology industries.

The research could lead to the creation of new ways of tailoring biotechnology and point-of-care products for Australia.

• Dr Timo Nieminen, from the School of Physical Sciences, and colleagues have been awarded more than $1.1 million to study colour vision and photoreceptors in reef fish.

These fish will help researchers understand some of the mysteries of the function of photoreceptors and teach them more about the fundamental principles of vision.

• Dr Timo Nieminen, from the School of Physical Sciences, and colleagues secured funding of $675,000 for a project on optically-driven microchips and microtools.

The research will focus on the development and production of micro-machines of unprecedented small size, and the development of new medical diagnostic techniques, together with industrial and research tools.

Dr Sterling working on her whiplash research

UQ NEWS, DECEMBER 2004
For three months, the master of a bronze statue of Mary Poppins has been taking shape in Dr Rhyl Hinwood’s studio.

And it looks nothing like Julie Andrews – the actor who made the magical nanny famous in the 1964 film. Dr Hinwood, who usually carves sandstone as the University’s sculptor, is creating Mary for the city of Maryborough, north of Brisbane.

Maryborough is the birthplace of the author who created Mary Poppins, Pamela Travers.

After breaking her wrist recently, the sculptor welcomed a softer option to carving stone.

“The figure is almost modelled. I have yet to do the carpet bag that had all her magic tricks in it and also the umbrella,” Dr Hinwood said.

The clay modeling on the 1.5 metre steel armature skeleton has been based on UQ Arts student Imogen Marnane.

“I’ve known her virtually all her life and she just seemed to have the right personality and characteristics,” she said.

Forming the clay master had been a challenge in hot and windy conditions in Brisbane but when complete Mary will stand on the footpath near her creator’s birthplace.

The statue will show her in a suit and lace blouse, wearing a hat, with flowers and gloves and about to open her umbrella with a carpet bag at her feet.

Maryborough residents and its Proud Marys Association have raised more than $40,000, with $5500 each from its city council and the State Government for the statue.

“The Proud Marys wanted to have a depiction of Mary Poppins based on the illustrations by Mary Shepherd in the original book, and not the Disney version, which portrayed her as too sugary sweet,” she said.

“Walt Disney made a very successful movie but he changed quite a lot of the images and the character of Mary Poppins, much to the chagrin of the author.

“In no way was she to look like Julie Andrews.”

Mary’s bronze statue will be cast in a Brisbane foundry and installed in Maryborough by August 2005.

Mary pops up in bronze

Internet traffic speeds up

A substantial upgrade to UQ’s Internet capacity will change Internet access rules for all staff and students from January 5, 2005.

The upgrade will provide the University with a ten-fold increase in Internet capacity and connect UQ to a global network of research institutions.

Information Technology Services Director Nick Tate said the upgrade would connect UQ to the Internet at speeds comparable to European and North American universities.

“This will deliver substantial improvements in capacity to the Internet, in both the speed and capacity of our connections to other universities and research institutions in Australia, the USA, Canada, Europe and some parts of Asia,” Mr Tate said.

He said this would allow UQ researchers to access networks of the world’s leading universities without incurring excessive traffic charges.

“A subscription based approach to the recovery of Internet costs will mean there will be unlimited access to research and education networks that connect to other universities,” he said.

The Internet Access and Traffic Management System will be implemented along with the upgrade to Internet capacity.

Mr Tate said students and most staff would log in using their UQ sign-in username and password to access the Internet.

“This will allow them to review and manage their own use and will allow organisational units to provide a higher level of management,” he said.

As part of the upgrade, all staff and students will be provided with a national dial-up number.

“The existing dial-up facility will be extended to allow Internet connections from across Australia for the price of a local call,” Mr Tate said.

Information: www.uqconnect.net/trafficmgt
Athlete friendly
UQ has been endorsed as an elite athlete friendly university.

The University was one of 26 Australian universities endorsed by the Australian Institute of Sport at a ceremony in Canberra on November 3.

The program recognises universities that have a range of flexible policies and practices to meet the academic needs of elite student athletes.

UQ SPORT Director Kim Guerin represented UQ at the launch.

Ms Guerin said UQ had more than 50 elite athletes on scholarships for a range of sports.

“Elite student athletes invest a considerable amount of their lives in the pursuit of sporting and academic success,” Ms Guerin said.

“The challenge confronting them is how to maintain a balance without compromising performance in either area.”

The Rhodes to Oxford are clear
UQ’s 2005 Rhodes Scholar will follow in the footsteps of presidents and prime ministers on his way to Oxford University.

A UQ graduate who was inspired to further his interest in economic development after working with a humanitarian group has been chosen as the 2005 Queensland Rhodes Scholar.

In October, Simon Quinn will head to the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom to take up the scholarship, studying for a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Economics.

He will follow in the footsteps of high-profile Rhodes Scholars including former US President Bill Clinton and former Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

“It is very humbling to be selected among their number, particularly as Rhodes Scholars in so many walks of life have made such large contributions,” Mr Quinn said.

“I think that in itself is both a great privilege and a great challenge.”

Mr Quinn graduated with a Bachelor of Economics with first-class honours in 2003 and received a prestigious University Medal the same year.

The 23-year-old is currently studying for a Bachelor of Laws, from which he intends to graduate in 2005.

In early 2004, Mr Quinn worked for the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre in New Delhi, India, where he conducted legal research on human rights issues.

Mr Quinn said this encouraged him to further his interest in issues of economic development, an area he eventually hopes to work in.

“I would like to research development economics, in particular looking at poor countries and problems of poverty and lack of growth,” he said.

“I’m really fascinated to learn more about the relationship between economics and the law – possibly to try and get an understanding of the way legal reforms affect the process of economic development.”

Mr Quinn said he was looking forward to studying at one of the world’s most prestigious universities.

“I think the actual standard of the economics course itself will be very high and there are specialities in development economics at Oxford that I am particularly interested in,” he said.

“I’m also really looking forward to the college life and the extra-curricular activities that Oxford has to offer.”

The Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce, AC made the announcement on November 5 at UQ’s St Lucia campus.

The selection committee interviewed six short-listed candidates before choosing Mr Quinn, whose interests include debating and cricket.

The former St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace school student has been involved in debating for a number of years.

He was a member of the Australian Schools Debating Team and coached the Queensland Schools Debating Team in 2002.

Mr Quinn will join five 2005 Rhodes Scholars from the other states and five from Australia-at-Large.

Medical graduates help to raise the roof
A large contingent of UQ medical graduates made a pilgrimage to the School of Medicine recently to see their old seat of learning reborn.

The ES Meyers Lecture Theatre, situated beneath the distinctive dome of the Mayne Medical School building in the suburb of Herston, has undergone a $900,000 refurbishment.

The project received significant financial contributions from more than 400 former students.

More than 150 donors and guests, including UQ Chancellor Sir Llew Edwards, AC, and Dr Derek Meyers, the son of the late ES Meyers, attended a reopening and unveiling of the project on November 18.

The highlight of the evening was the revealing of the theatre’s giant wooden dome ceiling, hidden from view for 75 years.

The underside of the dome features rich, hardwood panelling curved in a geometric synchronicity that had been hidden behind a ceiling.

Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences Professor Peter Brooks said medical students would sit in lectures beneath the dome.

“This magnificent architectural creation will now remain uncovered and be celebrated as the central feature of the restoration,” he said.

New technology installed in the lecture theatre brings it in line with the needs and future plans of a medical school of the 21st Century.
The University has recognised some of its best teachers at the 2004 Awards for Excellence in Teaching, Research Higher Degree Supervision and Enhancement of Student Learning.

Ten individual winners and two group winners were honoured at a ceremony on November 15 at Brisbane’s Customs House, as part of UQ’s third annual Teaching and Learning Week.

Teaching and learning in all forms, from the physical space of a classroom to innovative teaching methods, was celebrated during the week under the theme Building Learning Communities.

A range of seminars and discussions on teaching and learning were also held with day-long showcases at the St Lucia and Gatton campuses.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Margaret Gardner said learning communities were networks inside and outside formal classrooms that allowed student discussion via chatrooms, study groups or other informal meetings.

“A huge amount of what you learn happens outside the classroom,” Professor Gardner said. “In a research intensive University, a lot of the real excitement in teaching and learning comes from that engagement, not just what the teacher is talking about in first year, but the real research they are engaged in.”

Professor Gardner said the awards were designed to recognise, encourage and reward sustained excellence in teaching, higher degree research supervision and excellence in the learning environment.

The winners were:

**Awards for Excellence in Teaching ($10,000 each)**
- Dr Venero Armanno (senior lecturer, School of English, Media Studies and Art History)
- Dr Kim Bryceson (senior lecturer, School of Natural and Rural Systems Management)
- Dr Glen Coleman (lecturer, School of Veterinary Science)
- Dr Julie Duck (senior lecturer, School of Psychology)
- Dr Nickolas James (lecturer, School of Law).

**Awards for the Enhancement of Student Learning ($20,000 each)**
- Michael Docherty, Dr Margot Brereton, Dr Ian MacColl, Dr Stephen Viller and Matthew Simpson, *The Studio Scenario: experiential learning in the information environments program* (School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering).
- Dr Paul Mills, Dr Peter Woodall, Dr Michael Noad, Dr Pearl Symonds and Dr Liisa Ahlstrom, *Group and peer learning in first-year veterinary science* (School of Veterinary Science).

**Awards for Excellence in Research Higher Degree Supervision ($10,000 each)**
- Professor Tian Oei (School of Psychology)
- Associate Professor Gimme Walter (School of Life Sciences).
- Associate Professor Mike Bennett (School of Biomedical Sciences) was awarded a Certificate of Meritorious Supervision for Excellence in Research Higher Degree Supervision.

**Commendations for Excellence in Teaching** were also awarded to Dr Peter Sutton from the School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering and Dr Judith Seaboyer, from the School of English, Media Studies and Art History.

Winners must spend their money before 2006 on items that enhance teaching or learning, such as conference costs, books or teaching aids.

The outstanding contribution of staff to education was recognised at a recent UQ teaching awards ceremony.

By Miguel Holland
Concrete cancer often blows out the budgets of coastal renovators but a new method of testing the longevity of concrete coatings could provide them with advance warning.

UQ civil engineering PhD student Farshid Homayouni has devised the test that measures the resistance of concrete coatings against carbon dioxide.

Concrete is often coated to shield it from concrete cancer, which occurs when carbon dioxide or wind-borne salts penetrate its pores.

This eats away at the protective layer and corrodes the steel reinforcement inside, which causes cracking of the concrete known as concrete cancer.

It’s a problem that costs more than $200 million a year to fix, according to a 1997 report on concrete infrastructure along the Australian coast.

To prove his test, Mr Homayouni used more than 300 concrete samples, some of which he drilled out of Brisbane buildings and bridges such as the Story Bridge.

The samples were exposed to a year of weathering before they were tested in a gas diffusion test rig, which showed the degradation of the coating.

There are many different types of concrete coatings, such as water-based, polymers and acrylics, but there are no industry standards.

“Standard testing methods do not provide any dependable guidelines as to the expected life of coatings in different environments and as such maintenance routines cannot be optimised,” Mr Homayouni said.

“Claims of superiority are almost a universal sales pitch.

“They are unsubstantiated, however, as there is no proper industry-wide standard that provides a reliable and consistent testing method.”

Mr Homayouni, who is completing his PhD under the supervision of Dr Hamid Ronagh from the School of Engineering, said he wanted to test all concrete coatings to find the best one.

He hopes to pitch the test rig for commercial use by councils, engineers, homeowners and developers.

In the five years to 2001, the Gold Coast alone spent $80 million patching up concrete cancer, according to a survey of concrete repairers.

As part of their visit, the students assessed the plant by collecting data and making recommendations that were designed to improve efficiency.

Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre lecturer Suzy Stark helped organise the trip.

Ms Stark said they made a number of recommendations that were adopted at Grupo Mexico’s Unidad Charcas plant.

“The plant had a problem with the control of one of the feed pumps in the grinding circuit,” Ms Stark said.

“They implemented some controls based on our recommendations and these proved successful.”

Ms Stark said other recommendations made by the students were also being investigated to properly assess their benefits.

During their visit, the group were joined by four PhD students from the Instituto de Metalurgia in San Luis Potosi, who helped them overcome some of the cultural barriers.

The students were also given the chance to immerse themselves in Mexican culture.

“We had time to visit Teotihuacan, site of the ancient pyramids outside Mexico City, Guanajuato, which was the birthplace of the Mexican Revolution and also Mexico City where we tried our hand at bartering,” Ms Stark said.
State of research smarter

by Brad Turner

Three academics have been rewarded by the Queensland Government with fellowships to help develop their innovative research.

Groudbreaking UQ research into obesity reduction, computer chip manufacture and the control of crop-damaging pests will be significantly advanced through Smart State Fellowships awarded in November.

UQ researchers Dr Louise Hutley from the School of Medicine, Dr Idriss Blakey from the Centre for Magnetic Resonance and Dr Horst Schirra from the Institute for Molecular Bioscience received the three-year fellowships, worth $120,000 per annum.

Queensland Minister for State Development and Innovation, Tony McGrady, presented the awards at a ceremony held at the Queensland University of Technology.

The Queensland Government provides $150,000 in funding for each fellowship as part of its Smart State initiative, which is matched collectively by research organisations and industry co-sponsors.

UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC, welcomed the fellowships and praised the State Government for its support of funding initiatives resulting in Queensland becoming a hub of major scientific research and innovation.

“Premier Peter Beattie and his government have shown an ongoing commitment to assisting researchers in institutions such as ours to prove that the Smart State is much more than just a slogan,” Professor Hay said.

Professor David Siddle, UQ’s Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), said the fellowships scheme was a manifestation of the government’s commitment to research and development, and to the development of a knowledge economy.

“UQ is delighted that three of its innovative staff have been recognised in this way and look forward to further collaboration with the government for the benefit of Queensland,” he said.

- Dr Hutley is developing a drug to block the growth of fat cells.
  Obesity is a major contributor to medical conditions including Type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer and depression.
  “Despite the fact that obesity is so prevalent in our society, we still don’t really know what makes fat tissue grow,” Dr Hutley said.
  Using human fat tissue, Dr Hutley has identified a growth factor crucial to the development of fat cells.

- Dr Blakey is investigating why some materials fail during the computer chip manufacturing process.
  “I am hoping to design new material and processes for what is a multi-billion dollar industry,” he said.
  “The fellowship will provide extra funding for my research program and will enable me to further develop national and international collaborations with industry and academia.”

- Dr Schirra is developing new forms of pest control by determining how plant proteins block the digestive enzymes of insect pests.
  “The aim is to structurally characterise the interactions between the digestive enzymes of insects with plant proteinase inhibitors,” he said.
  “The outcomes include novel approaches to protect economically important crops such as cotton from insect pests, potentially saving millions of dollars in chemical pesticides and enhancing Australia’s crop production.”

From left: Dr Blakey, Dr Hutley, Professor Siddle and Dr Schirra
Station opens doors

Marine life will be put further under the microscope in new teaching and laboratory space at UQ's Moreton Bay Research Station.

A new teaching laboratory and four specialty laboratories, including one with climate-controlled technology, were unveiled on November 28 at the station's annual Open Day and 55th birthday celebrations.

About 1000 people toured the revamped $2.6 million station on North Stradbroke Island.

There were guided tours of the building and foreshore, environmental talks and a host of marine displays ranging from starfish in touch tanks to glow-in-the-dark coral and rays, jellyfish and sharks.

Dr Kathy Townsend, who manages the station with husband Kevin, said the shark and ray exhibit had been one of the most popular displays.

“One of the amazing things this year was the fantastic support we got from volunteers, the community and sponsors,” Dr Townsend said.

She said the new laboratories, built with a $350,000 grant from the Department of Education, Science and Training, would help attract molecular biologists and allow for more research to be conducted into all aspects of Moreton Bay.

The new teaching laboratory will allow two groups of students to be taught simultaneously.

The station, which was rebuilt in 2000, also features teaching laboratories, a lecture theatre, a UQ-linked computer room and library and accommodation for more than 70 people.

It replaced the previous research station that had been run by CSIRO and UQ on North Stradbroke Island since 1949.

The site was originally chosen for the availability of the buildings, the richness of local fauna and habitats, the relatively safe anchorage and isolation from human impact.

Mr Townsend said the Open Day had given members of the community an opportunity to find out more about the marine life that lived in the area and had informed people about the research being conducted.

He said the four new specialty laboratories would aid research staff and students.

“This means we will be attracting even more cutting-edge research teams into the Moreton Bay region,” Mr Townsend said.

During the Open Day welcome address, Station Director Dr Ian Tibbetts said Mr and Mrs Townsend had helped transform the station into a vibrant research base.

Dr Tibbetts also thanked long-time supporters, the Port of Brisbane Corporation, Consolidated Rutile Limited and the Minjerrribah Moorgumpin Elders in Council.
A international research mission is studying and recording deep-sea creatures with the help of unique camera technology.

In August, Professor Justin Marshall from UQ’s Vision, Touch and Hearing Research Centre travelled to the Northern Gulf of Mexico, one of the most geologically complex regions on the planet, as part of Operation Deep Scope.

The significance of the area is its geography, with this section of the world containing massive underwater lakes comprised of brine.

The lakes are home to some of the world’s most fascinating underwater creatures, of which little is known.

The team used a camera known as the Eye-In-The-Sea, which allowed the researchers to study deep-sea creatures under extremely dim light without disturbing them.

“The whole capability of being able to go to the bottom of the ocean and put a camera there, a very expensive and high-tech camera, was significant,” Professor Marshall said.

“Things could not have been recorded and retrieved without the use of this camera.”

Submersibles can also be used for deep-sea study but they are often noisy and disturb the animals, which means researchers are unable to study their normal behaviour.

“They actually aren’t going too fast, but for the deep-sea animals it would be equivalent to that of a speed boat.

“The idea is to get some natural behaviour from the animals.”

The team gathered footage of deep-sea creatures including jellyfish, dragonfish and anglerfish.

The deep-sea jellyfish, Peraphilla, which was caught at 700 metres below the surface, wards off predators by shooting packages from its body that explode in a firework-like display.

Much of Professor Marshall’s previous research has focused on light and colour and he has conducted a great deal of research on the Great Barrier Reef.

He said he hoped the research in the Gulf of Mexico would contribute to conservation efforts.

The plight of the Gulf of Mexico can be an important conservation lesson.

“I learned about the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico on my way over and the degradation as a result of dumping waste and chemical run-off … and it has killed off vast areas,” Professor Marshall said.

“And we are doing it all over again here.

“The oceans have been explored but there is much more to be discovered.

“By learning about the wonders of nature, by sharing this beauty with others, and by using animal vision to better visualise and monitor our planet, I hope we can help preserve what we have for the future.”

A UQ academic has travelled to the bottom of the ocean on the other side of the world to follow his passion for marine biology and explore an environment rarely seen by humans.
The University has extended its education to the rugby field with the launch of a new academy at UQ St Lucia.

The UQ Rugby Academy will provide intensive player development and coach education programs for domestic and international participants.

Former Wallaby Fullback and Academy Ambassador Roger Gould said it would deliver a pre-eminent package combining sports science, athlete analysis and rugby tuition.

“Course participants will have access to world-class coaching and playing expertise to enhance their rugby development,” Mr Gould said.

“The active involvement of UQ’s School of Human Movement Studies will provide cutting-edge athlete testing and analysis methods to complement on-field coaching.”

Former ACT Brumbies Academy Head Coach Nick Leah will guide the UQ Rugby Academy in his new role as Director.

“Players and teams will receive top training and coaching immersion while aspiring coaches will be given a high-level experience to further their rugby education,” Mr Leah said.

He said the Academy’s St Lucia base provided an ideal setting.

“It offers first-class sporting facilities and a world-renowned sports science department,” he said.

The UQ Rugby Academy was launched at The James and Mary Emelia Mayne Centre on November 22 as a joint initiative of the UQ Rugby Club, UQ SPORT and the University.

The launch was attended by UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC, Foundation Chair of the UQ Rugby Academy Eric Anning, Honorary Secretary of UQ SPORT Frank McLoughlin and Head of the School of Human Movement Studies Professor Doune Macdonald.

Tackling fieldwork at new rugby academy

From left: Professor Macdonald, Professor Hay, Mr Anning and Mr McLoughlin

Origin of cancer research

Cancer research has been given a kick along thanks to a donation raised with the help of former State of Origin rugby league stars.

The loss of their daughter Mardi to melanoma continues to drive Don and Lyn Jackson’s efforts to raise funds for research into the treatment and cure of one of the most preventable yet most common cancers.

In November, Mr and Mrs Jackson, who established the Mardi Jackson Foundation in their daughter’s memory, made a $49,000 donation to the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

The money will go to UQ’s Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research (CICR), located at the hospital.

Funds were raised through a variety of events involving members of the Former Origin Greats (FOGS).

Those FOGS present at the ceremony included Allan Langer, Trevor Gillmeister, Gene Miles and Gavin Allen.

CICR Business Manager Anton Sanker, himself a survivor of melanoma, said the donation would be used to buy laboratory equipment and fund research.

“The Mardi Jackson Foundation’s grants to the Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation now exceed $112,000,” he said.

“These generous donations have gone to assist funding the vital research work of Senior Research Fellow Dr Brian Gabrielli and the University’s Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research.”

A chance early warning from Mr Sanker’s late grandfather about a suspicious-looking mole on the then 20-year-old’s neck led to a near life-threatening diagnosis.

Fortunately, rapid and radical surgery was successful and Mr Sanker now heads the business side of the CICR, working with the dermatologist who initially diagnosed his melanoma.

Queensland has the world’s highest rates of malignant melanoma, which is also the most common invasive cancer in Queensland.

The CICR’s Dr Gabrielli is identifying genes that make people more susceptible to melanoma.

Dr Gabrielli said in terms of results the CICR ranked among the excellent research nodes in the world.

“While there are no guarantees in medical research, if you invest in this campus you have a good chance as any of success,” he said.

The Mardi Jackson Foundation’s grants to the Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation now exceed $112,000

Patient Rick Sutton with Mr Langer and Mr Allen
Janine’s chapter closes

by Colleen Clur

Janine Schmidt has transformed the UQ Library into a national leader during her 11 years in charge. She leaves the University with few regrets and many achievements.

Never one to do things quietly, University Librarian Janine Schmidt will no doubt exit with a flourish when she leaves UQ at the end of January 2005.

Hundreds of staff are expected to attend a farewell to say goodbye to UQ’s Librarian of 11 years, but the group which has most benefited from her work will probably be under-represented: UQ students.

Because of the size of UQ, few students would have come to know Mrs Schmidt personally, but her influence on students at UQ has been considerable.

Mrs Schmidt will take up the position as Trenholme Director of Libraries at McGill University, Montreal, Canada in February 2005. Her move overseas comes after a distinguished career as a librarian at UQ, the State Library of New South Wales, and earlier in her working life, as a senior lecturer in information studies.

She has reshaped the UQ Library so that it is now recognised as one of the best in Australia, providing users with outstanding collections, an integrated website and IT systems which validate the Library’s name, “UQ Cybrary”.

UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC, said Mrs Schmidt’s departure was a great loss to the University.

“Janine is, quite simply, the most outstanding university librarian that I have met or worked with. And she is also the only cybrarian,” said Professor Hay.

“She has provided great service to students, academic and general staff, alumni and the wider community. Janine has always concentrated on providing the best possible facilities, materials and services to library users.”

He said Mrs Schmidt had shown tremendous energy and passion in developing key collections, and in representing the Library on numerous decision-making bodies, such as the University’s Academic Board, and a range of domestic and international forums.

“Her commitment to the wider community has been demonstrated in a range of projects she initiated, including the UQ Library Cyber-school, which provides extensive database access to Queensland high schools,” Professor Hay said.

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield said students, staff and especially research staff, owed Mrs Schmidt a great deal.

“She has driven a customer and student-oriented focus in the Library, which permeates right across the organisation.

“There are many other individuals at UQ who demonstrate this customer focus, but Janine has been particularly successful in ensuring this approach in an organisational sense,” he said.

“During the recent external review of the Library, submission after submission attested to the quality and helpfulness of Library staff. That Janine and her senior staff have fostered such a culture is a great achievement.”

Mrs Schmidt said that the Cyberschool initiative, like many other successful projects, had started in a small way.

“Our whole approach has been to try things. You start with little things. “UQL Cyberschool started as a three-month trial – we now have 170 schools participating with access to 28 databases from the Cyberschool website,” she said.

Mrs Schmidt said the Library had also made great strides in online service delivery.

“We started with three PCs. We used to buy five at a time, now we buy hundreds,” she said. “Sometimes people say all these changes have been fast and I say its taken 30 years. Libraries were early adopters of IT.

But it all started in a small way.”

Mrs Schmidt said the Library had also made great strides in online service delivery.

“We started with three PCs. We used to buy five at a time, now we buy hundreds,” she said. “Sometimes people say all these changes have been fast and I say its taken 30 years. Libraries were early adopters of IT.

But it all started in a small way.”

Mrs Schmidt said that she and husband Barry were looking forward to the move to Montreal but eventually would retire to Australia where both her adult daughters live.

“I have been here 11 years and I think it’s important to let someone else have a go and perhaps it will take a different sort of style in the future.”

She said university library management was about recognising the need for change.

“It’s about ensuring that we have the people and the collections in place that support ongoing research, and teaching and learning. You don’t grow a library collection overnight,” she said.

“Nothing would have been possible without a committed team. It’s not like we sell coffee, we sell knowledge. We are committed to add to people’s life experiences – and that’s what I will remember most about my time at UQ.”
Today was different.
A special Remembrance Day service was held at UQ Gatton on November 11, 60 years after the departure from the campus of the first US Army Hospital established in Australia.

Current and past servicemen from both countries – including members of the RAAF, Army Reserve, RSL, Legacy and American Legion – joined current and former UQ staff and students, school children, American expatriates and members of the public to remember those who lost their lives in war.

The gathering also recognised one of the most significant periods in the region’s history, two years during World War II when UQ Gatton was home to nearly 20,000 convalescing US soldiers and medical staff.

Executive Dean of the Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science Professor Roger Swift said the occasion would be remembered in perpetuity with the planting of a descendent of the original Lone Pine tree near the Foundation Building, which served as the hospital’s headquarters.

“On March 15, 1942, the US Army requisitioned the Gatton Campus and established the 153rd Station Hospital, the first operational United States Army Hospital in Australia,” Professor Swift said.

“When this unit departed for Port Moresby on July 10, 1942, the facility was transferred to the US Army 105th General Hospital, which operated until July 1944 as the primary hospital in the South West Pacific during General Macarthur’s campaign.”

The two years when the US Army was located at UQ Gatton is a significant period in the history of the campus and equally significant for Harvard University, from which the 105th drew almost its entire medical staff.

“UQ is very proud of the historical links we share with the US and Harvard University and the important role the Gatton campus played,” Professor Swift said.

“The contribution made by both hospitals’ medical staff to the war effort and the medical profession during the US Army’s time at Gatton was immense.

“As well as treating nearly 19,000 patients, the hospitals provided medical staff to support the military’s forward deployments and developed particular expertise in the treatment of injuries and illness in the tropics.

“The Americans also made an enormous contribution to the local community during those wartime years and to the development of the Gatton campus, installing the sewage system, landscaping, roads and other infrastructure still used today.

“As we paused to remember the sacrifice of those who served and died in war, we also remembered those casualties who recuperated or died at the Gatton Campus and those dedicated medical staff and others who treated, supported and cared for them.”
Shadowing program extends Asian links

UQ has established firm friendships with two Chinese universities for the benefit all three institutions.

The University has extended its links with Asia by hosting the Vice-Presidents of two Chinese universities.

Vice-President of Shanghai University Professor Ye Zhiming and Vice-President of Chongqing University Professor Zhang Siping visited UQ from November 6 to 12, as part of the Australian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee (AVCC) Chinese University Administrators’ Shadowing (CHUAS) Program.

During the visit, the Vice-Presidents met with senior University staff including Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Development) Professor Trevor Grigg, Academic Director of International Programs Professor Ray Volker and Director of the University’s International Education Directorate Andrew Everett.

Professor Grigg said the visit had ensured the establishment of firm friendships and cross-institutional links.

“The program allowed both parties to spend time studying first-hand the higher-level administration and research leadership of their respective universities,” Professor Grigg said.

The CHUAS program is a component of the education and training development initiatives established under a formal agreement between the AVCC and the Chinese Education Association for International Exchange.

Take your communication career to new heights

INSPIRED THINKING

Become a better communicator and give your career a boost by adding postgraduate qualifications in communication to your repertoire of skills.

UQ’s innovative communication programs will provide you with the skills to succeed in today’s communication-driven world.

Specialise in:

- Public Relations & Professional Communication
- Media Studies
- Health Communication
- Organisational Communication
- Science Communication
- Rural & Regional Communication
- Communication for Social Change

Develop your knowledge of communication dynamics while gaining practical skills that will give you an edge in the job market.

To find out more phone (07) 3365 7487, email sbs@uq.edu.au or visit www.uq.edu.au/sbs

From left: Professor Zhang, Professor Grigg, Mr Everett, Professor Ye and Professor Volker
UQ has boosted its collection of Chinese antiquities with 20 new pieces donated by Hong Kong medical specialist and UQ graduate Dr Nat Yuen.

Dr Yuen, who studied medicine with UQ Chancellor Sir Llew Edwards, AC, has been donating Chinese relics to the University since 1994.

His latest donation includes valuable blue and white porcelain from the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) dynasties and two scrolls of contemporary Chinese calligraphy.

In total, there are 86 pieces in the Nat Yuen Collection made up of ancient pottery, fine ceramics, figurines, bronze tripods, sword blades and daggers.

The collection, which spans most periods of the 5000 years of Chinese culture, has an estimated value of more than $1.5 million.

UQ owns 65 of the pieces and 21 are on loan. One of the oldest is a 4500-year-old jar from the Neolithic period.

Dr Yuen has been a keen collector of Chinese antiquities since the 1960s when he inherited several pieces of porcelain and paintings from his father.

He said he was fascinated by the colour of the antiquities and how they were made in that time.

“Even now, today, it may be difficult to reproduce some of them,” Dr Yuen said.

The Nat Yuen Collection is on display at the University Art Museum at The James and Mary Emelia Mayne Centre at UQ St Lucia.
Software prize

A UQ School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering student has won the Institute Prize in a prestigious, international software design competition.

The FEKO Student Competition is run each year by South-African-based software company FEKO.

The second-year PhD student Bing Keong (Joe) Li, was awarded the prize for his use of FEKO software to analyse phased-array coils, equipment used in advanced Magnetic Resonance Imagers.

Philosophy ranking

The graduate program in philosophy at UQ has been ranked in the top five in Australia by an international guide to philosophy graduate programs. The Philosophical Gourmet Report is based on a reputational survey of the current academic philosophy staff at each institution.

The report places UQ as one of the major philosophical players on the international stage with the University listed as one of the best places in the world to study the philosophy of biology.

Outstanding youth

Earlier this year, PhD student Wai Yie Leong participated in the Fifth China Synergy Programme for Outstanding Youth (CSP5).

The program allows exceptional young Chinese students studying at university to explore their cultural roots.

“I was able to visit top universities and enterprises in Hong Kong and China and meet with other outstanding students to discuss the technology economy and share ideas,” she said.

The 228 CSP5 delegates, including nine from Australia, were selected from 1200 applications from 180 universities.

The seeds of success

The UQ-based Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Tropical Plant Protection has unveiled a test that uses DNA technology to dramatically cut detection time for the devastating plant pathogen Phytophthora.

The new test, called the Phytophthora–IDENTIKIT, uses DNA technology to detect Phytophthora in soil, plant and water samples.

In some cases, the test can detect the disease in a matter of hours, compared to a week using traditional methods.

The efficiency afforded by the test gives growers a head-start on managing the disease and preventing its further spread.

Phytophthora is a common fungal disease of plants and soil that, while little known to most home gardeners, was recently ranked as the most important threat to Australia’s ornamental nursery industry.

It is thought to cost the nursery industry about 10 percent in losses each year and more than $200 million in losses across all of Australia’s agricultural industries annually.

A recent study by New South Wales Agriculture revealed 38 percent of nurseries were infected with Phytophthora.

“Phytophthora is soil and water-borne, so it is easily spread by movements of humans, animals and water and, of course, the plants themselves,” Dr Andre Drenth from the CRC said.

“This is why it’s so important for the disease to be identified right through the nursery industry supply chain because an infected plant from a wholesaler is going to be an infected plant for a retailer and eventually a dead plant for a fruit farmer or backyard gardener.”

Phytophthora–IDENTIKIT was launched in October by the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries Henry Palaszczuk at an event attended by the President of the Nursery and Garden Industry Queensland Mirella Jakimoff and Chief Executive Officer of the CRC for Tropical Plant Protection Professor John Irwin.

Banking on plants

UQ scientists have received a million-dollar grant to set up the State’s first-ever seed bank for arid zone native plants.

Called Seeds for Life UQ, the program is part of the Millennium Seed Bank Project initiated by the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew in the UK, which aims to collect the seeds of 24,000 native plant species worldwide over the next six years.

Project leader, Associate Professor Stephen Adkins from the School of Land and Food Sciences, said the seeds would allow the conservation of plant species, while research would yield information to help rehabilitate degraded landscapes.

Humanities president

Professor Graeme Turner, Director of the Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies at UQ, has been elected President of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

It is the first time an Academy Fellow from the cultural and communications studies field has been recognised in this way.

“As a field of study, cultural studies understands and respects tradition while exploring new forms of knowledge,” he said.

Professor Turner’s research interests are largely in Australian media and popular culture.

From left: Mr Palaszczuk, Ms Jakimoff and Professor Irwin at the launch of Phytophthora – IDENTIKIT
Australian literature on record

The Bibliography of Australian Literature: F-J. Edited by Professor John Hay and John Arnold

Quantum Squeezing. Edited by Professor Peter Drummond and Dr Zbyszek Ficek

Quantum Squeezing, a new book by two UQ researchers presents the first comprehensive overview of this hot topic in quantum physics.

Edited by Professor Peter Drummond and Dr Zbyszek Ficek from the Centre of Excellence for Quantum-Atom Optics, Quantum Squeezing explains the latest developments in this field, emphasising the enormous progress made over the past two decades in controlling quantum fluctuations, the origin of all quantum mysteries and paradoxes.

The relatively new area of squeezing in quantum fields encompasses all types of systems in which quantum fluctuations are reduced below those in the normal vacuum state. This technique can be used in technologies that have very precise measurements such as satellite navigation systems.

“The secret of these developments is good old horse-trading,” Professor Drummond said.

“Quantum mechanics allows precise measurement of one quantity, provided the fluctuations increase in another.”

Quantum Squeezing was launched at UQ in November.

The book covers the field of quantum squeezing from the early ideas to the most recent developments, from generating squeezing to applying it.

It provides a unique contribution to the field by the foremost international experts responsible for some of the chief developments in quantum squeezing.

“All physical measurements are subject to fluctuations,” Professor Drummond said.

“Even if the known sources of noise are eliminated, as in a perfect vacuum for example, there are fluctuations according to quantum theory.

“These are called quantum fluctuations and impose a fundamental limit on any scientific measurements.

“Over the past two decades, theoretical studies, followed closely by experimental measurements, have shown how quantum fluctuations can be reduced and even completely suppressed.

“This has become a new subject, known as quantum squeezing.”

Both theory and experiments are covered in the book, together with applications to communications and measurement.


Before reality television, trashy magazines, computer games or Quentin Tarantino movies, many Australians in the 1940s and 1950s received their popular culture fix from a different type of pulp fiction.

Pulp fiction books were original fictions that blended the graphics of comics with the layout of magazines.

They had bold sexy covers, were cheap and took a few hours to read.

It is a genre that has largely been ignored by academics until now.


Pulp reveals the stories behind its authors, artists, and publishers and includes 80 colour-plates of They Paid in Blood, Celluloid Suicide and Texan Tornado.

Dr Johnson-Woods spent two years researching the book at the National Library of Australia, also the publisher.

She said pulp fiction was appealing because of its sensational but undeserved reputation.

“It was one of the richest periods in Australian publishing history,” Dr Johnson-Woods said.

“Each month, thousands of copies of dozens of titles were printed.

“They were the armchair entertainment of pre-TV days. And all for sixpence.

“Preachers, politicians and teachers warned parents about the dangers lurking between the covers.”

Pulp fiction star author Carter Brown, who sold 80 million copies of his 297 books, remains Australia’s most popular but possibly least-known author.

The book was launched by Australian crime fiction author Peter Corris at the UQ Ipswich Library in November.
Kindy kids say fond farewells

UQ’s Campus Kindergarten is saying goodbye to one of its longest serving staff members.

Beverley Spiers will retire this month after 16 years of dedicated service.

Ms Spiers joined the Campus Kindergarten team in 1988 and has taught about 500 children, a number of whom have gone on to become UQ students.

The kindergarten is part of the UQ community and has provided care and education for children of staff, students and the wider community since 1971.

Campus Kindergarten Director Megan Gibson said it was the sense of community within the University and the kindergarten that suited Ms Spiers so well.

Ms Gibson said Ms Spiers’ warm and relaxed nature was evident from the moment you met her. She was known for her ready smile.

“Over the past 16 years, Beverley has forged long-lasting and treasured relationships with many families and staff within the kindergarten and UQ communities,” Ms Gibson said.

“Children’s eyes light up when they hear about Beverley.”

Ms Spiers said getting to know parents and families was as much a highlight of her job as spending time with the children.

But it was the appreciation of the children and the gratification of gaining their trust that had really made the job special.

“You see children that come at the beginning of semester and they are a little shy,” she said.

“Then, by the end of the semester and term, they gain confidence with their peers.

“It’s nice to see them grow and develop.”

Economist adds up to No.1

Professor John Quiggin has topped an Australian Hall of Fame for economists.

The UQ academic from the School of Economics and School of Political Science outranked nine star economists for quantity and quality of journal publications in the latest edition of the Economics Bulletin.

Two Macquarie University researchers sifted through 375 journals between 1988 and 2000 to rate 600 economists.

They used eight different measures of research output using rankings based on the numbers of citations and journal reputations.

Professor Quiggin was in the top three on all eight measures.

Earlier this year, he won the Australian Citation Laureate for economics, which recognises prolific researchers as measured by US publishers Thomson- ISI, which tallies an author’s published and quoted works.

In 2003, Professor Quiggin’s Murray-Darling project won a Federation Fellowship from the Australian Research Council – a program designed to keep top researchers in Australia.

He is continuing this work applying economics of uncertainty to the sustainable management of the Murray-Darling Basin.

Other UQ economists who ranked highly in the Economics Bulletin were Professor Clem Tisdell, Associate Professor Anthony Makin, Dr Neil Karunaratne and Dr Phil Bodman.

Professor Quiggin said he had an advantage because he had a full-time research position.

Asked what drove him to be such a prolific contributor, Professor Quiggin said: “This is just what I like doing.”

CLASSIFIEDS

* Classifieds are free, but are available only to staff, students and visiting academics.

TO RENT/HOUSE SIT

- Visiting librarian needs furnished accommodation from Jan to July. Pam: 07 3365 3247 or p.schindler@library.uq.edu.au
- West End: 2bd Queenslander cottage, 5 mins to ferry, garden to rear, parking, available January (or earlier by arrangement), $250/ wk. Larry: w.duffy@uq.edu.au
- Indooroopilly: 3bd unit, 2bth, office, small secure block. Aircon, d/washer, balcony, pool, close transport, on river. Available now, $400/wk. Melissa: 9438 240 973 or melcands@bigpond.com.au
- Indooroopilly: 3bd hse, quiet street study, fireplace, veranda, garden, lock-up garage. Optional take-over of furniture. Cls. UQ, shopping centre, $300 wk. Simone: joerin@psy.uq.edu.au
- Kelvin Grove: 3bd hse, can come furnished, avail. Aug. 2005. Cls transport, universities, schools, hospitals. Home exchange in Vancouver, Canada available. Haida: haidaluke@yahoo.ca or haida.luke@uq.edu.au
- Point Lookout, North Stradbroke Island: 3bd hse (1 Queen/4 single); incl stereo, CD player, TV, BBQ, dishwasher, w/machine, dryer, no pets. Malcolm: 07 3365 2764 or m.mclennan@uq.edu.au

WANTED TO RENT/HOUSE SIT

- Family of academic needs accommodation for 1 week in early Jan. Harshini: 07 3878 5203 or s361522@student.uq.edu.au
- Visiting academic needs 3bd hse Jan-June; prefer St Lucia. Indooroopilly, will consider nearby suburbs, local references avail, interviews possible. Roger: 07 3346 9005 or roger.croll@dal.ca
- Academic needs 3bd + hse with air con, access to pool, near Ironside School, public transport, from Jan for 6 months. Coral: 07 3362 0275 or coralP@qimr.edu.au or Naomi: Naomi.Wray@ed.ac.uk

FOR SALE

- Spacious 4 bd, 2bth, 2 lounge hse, large workshop, room for granny flat, on quiet Anstead acreage, 20 mins from St Lucia, 40 mins from Gatton. Sue: 07 3365 2110 or s361522@student.uq.edu.au
- Mitsubishi Pajero 4WD LWB 1995, good condition, ONO, $10,000. Simone: joerin@psy.uq.edu.au
Q7 What aspects of UQ News, if any, do you feel are unnecessary and why? (Please record your response)

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Q8 Overall, how do you rate the value of UQ News for building relationships with UQ? (Please tick one box only)

- Extremely valuable: 5
- Very valuable: 4
- Valuable: 3
- Not very valuable: 2
- Not valuable at all: 1

Q9 What improvements (if any) could be made to make UQ News more relevant and useful to you? (Please record your response)

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Q10 Which of the following options for receiving UQ News would you prefer? (Please tick one box only)

- In the mail: 1
- On-campus: 2
- Internet/website: 3
- Something else (Please specify): 4

Q12 Have you accessed UQ News Online? (Please tick one box only)

- Yes: 1
- No: 2

D1 Gender (Please tick one box only)

- Male: 1
- Female: 2

D2 What is your age? (Please tick one box only)

- 18 years or under: 1
- 19 – 25 years: 2
- 26 – 35 years: 3
- 36 – 45 years: 4
- 46 – 55 years: 5
- Over 55 years: 6

D3 Which of the following best describes your current relationship to UQ? (Please tick one box only)

- Business partner/affiliate of UQ: 1
- Lecturer/tutor/researcher at UQ: 2
- Student at UQ: 3
- General UQ staff member: 4
- Something else (Please specify): 5

D4 Which of the following best describes the industry you work in? (Please tick one box only)

- Education: 1
- Banking/Finance: 2
- Marketing/Communications: 3
- Accounting: 4
- Retail: 5
- Medical: 6
- Law: 7
- IT: 8
- Something else (Please specify): 9
Q1 On average, how many copies of UQ News do you read in one year? (Please tick one box only)

1-3 copies
4-6 copies
7-10 copies

Q2 How much time (in minutes) on average do you spend reading a single edition of UQ News? (Please tick one box only)

Less than 5 minutes
5-10 minutes
11-19 minutes
20-29 minutes
More than 30 minutes

Q3 How many people, other than you, usually read your copy of UQ News? (Please tick one box only)

None (self only)
1-2 other people
3-5 other people
6 or more other people

Q4 Which aspects of UQ News do you find of interest? (You may tick more than one box if appropriate)

Articles about UQ
Stories about achievements
UQ events/activities
UQ research
Links with industry updates
Stories about staff
Stories about students
Visual content
Something else (Please specify)

Q5 Please rate the style and layout of UQ News, for visual appeal and being easy to read. (Please tick one box only)

Not at all appealing
Extremely appealing

Q6 Thinking about all aspects of UQ News, please rate the relevance of the publication to you. (Please tick one box only)

Not at all relevant
Extremely relevant

All responses will be treated in the strictest confidence.
Please return completed questionnaires by JANUARY 5, 2005.

If you work or study at UQ you can place this questionnaire in an internal envelope and send to: Director, Office of Marketing and Communications
Alternatively, please tear off this page and either fax back to (07) 3847 9122, or return in an envelope clearly marked as follows (stamp is unnecessary): TNS, Reply Paid 80208, Greenslopes Qld 4120.
If you have any enquiries please call (07) 3847 9800 during business hours.

This questionnaire has been developed by TNS, an independent market research company, to provide The University of Queensland (UQ) with reader input about the content of UQ News. Your feedback is highly valued.

CONTINUED OVER PAGE